

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims to read as follows:

B1 1. (Twice amended) A method for generating a hepatic cell culture comprising co-culturing hepatocytes and nonparenchymal cells derived from disaggregated liver tissue, in the presence of growth factors and a matrix coated with at least one biologically active molecule that promotes cell adhesion, proliferation or survival under conditions sufficient to allow for the proliferation of said hepatocytes while retaining hepatic function of said hepatocytes.

B2 2. (Amended) A method for generating a hepatic cell culture comprising co-culturing established hepatic cell lines comprising hepatocytes and non-parenchymal cells, in the presence of growth factors and a matrix coated with at least one biologically active molecule that promotes cell adhesion, proliferation or survival under conditions sufficient to allow for the proliferation of said hepatocytes while retaining hepatic function of said hepatocytes.

B3 14. (Twice amended) A population of hepatocytes and nonparenchymal cells, derived from disaggregated liver tissue, associated with a matrix coated with at least one biologically active molecule that promotes cell adhesion, proliferation or survival.